



# *Old Swan's Advice*

*Instructive Stories from teachings of*  
**Pancha-Tantra**

Once in a jungle there was a beautiful lake and on the bank of the lake there was a shady banyan tree.

On this tree there lived a group of lovely white swans.





*The whole day these swans used  
to swim in the lake and play...*



*They would fly high in the sky.*





Swans would go in the morning in search of food.



and return in the evening





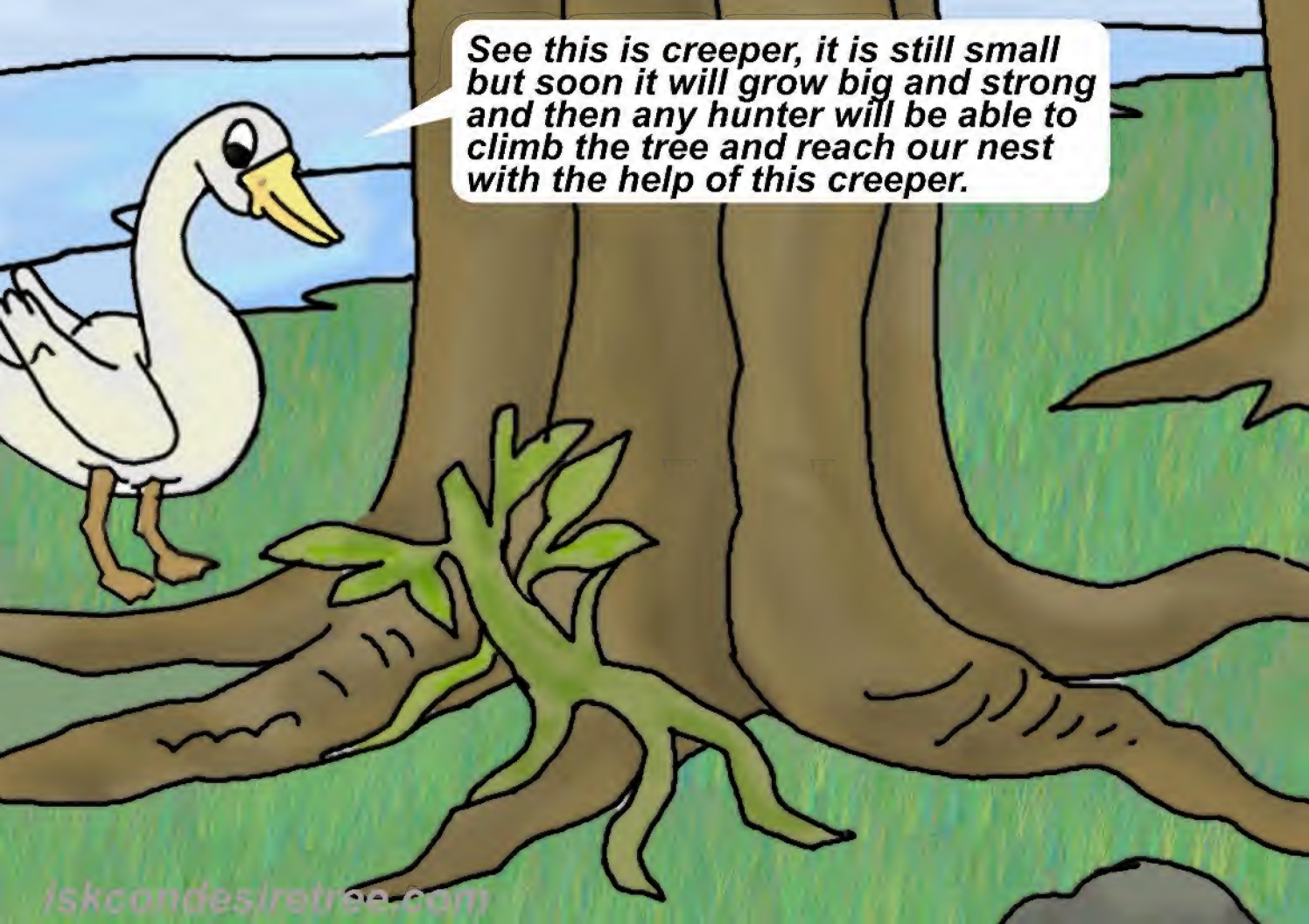
Swans had laid eggs in their nests and the babies too were growing. In this way many years passed.



*But one day, one old wise swan  
called all the swans and told them*

**Oh! Friends. Now it  
is not safe for us to  
stay on this banyan  
tree.**





**See this is creeper, it is still small  
but soon it will grow big and strong  
and then any hunter will be able to  
climb the tree and reach our nest  
with the help of this creeper.**

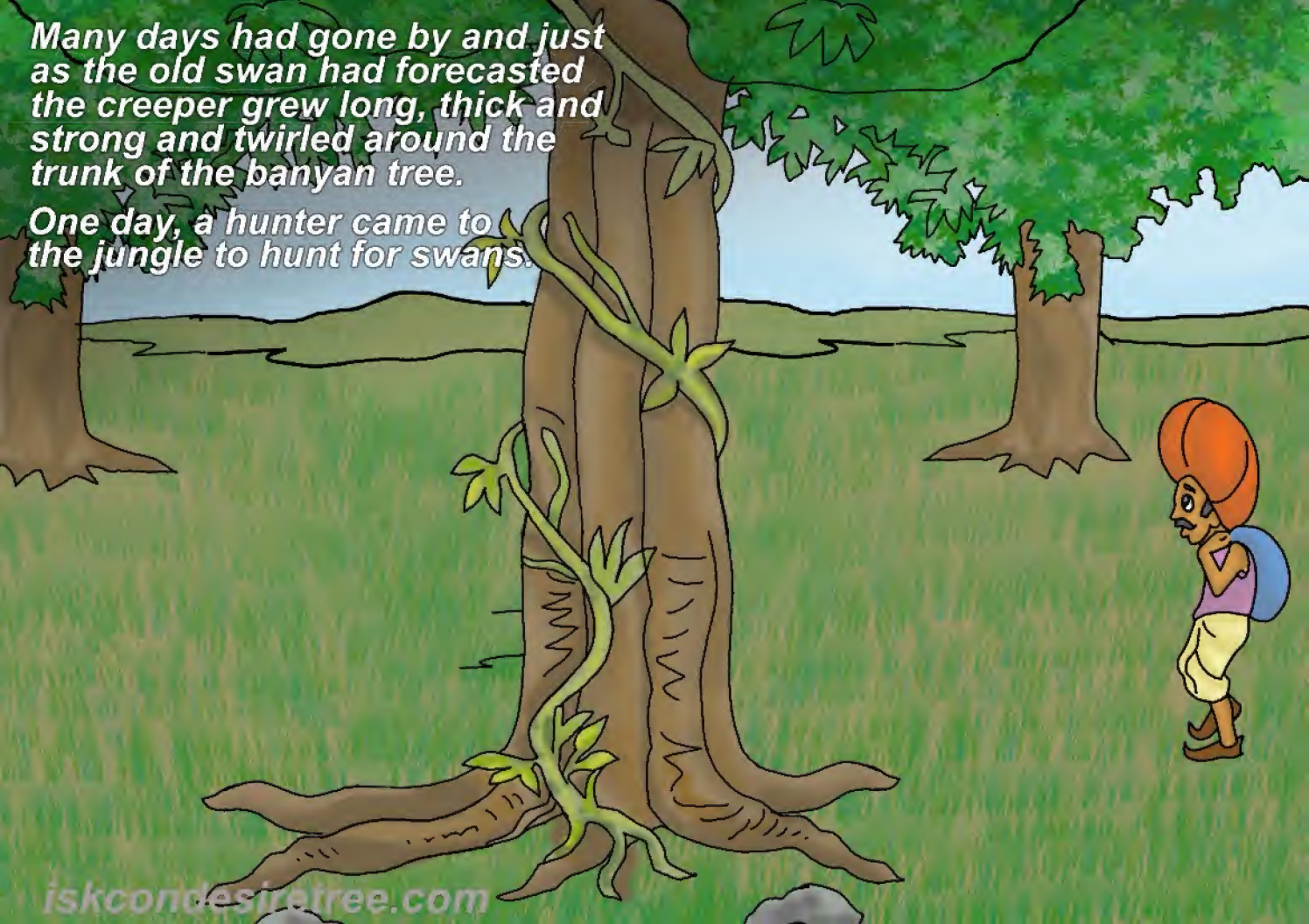
**Ah ! this sounds like a long story, it will take a long time for this creeper to grow big. Friends, come on, don't worry so much. For now let us enjoy.**






Many days had gone by and just as the old swan had forecasted the creeper grew long, thick and strong and twirled around the trunk of the banyan tree.

One day, a hunter came to the jungle to hunt for swans.






**All the swans had gone for swimming, I will climb the tree with the help of the creeper.**



*There he laid the net to catch the swans and went away.*





The legs and the necks of the swans were caught in the net. They desperately cried for help.

*Help !*

*Help !*

*Help !*




*Listening to their cry, the old swan  
at once came there from the lake...*






***You fools, you are now  
trapped. You did not  
listen to my advice and  
now see the result.***





*Oh! Please forgive us,  
we are really very sorry.  
Now please get us out of  
this trouble.*

*The old swan gave an idea  
for them to escape*



*Alright, now listen  
to me carefully.*



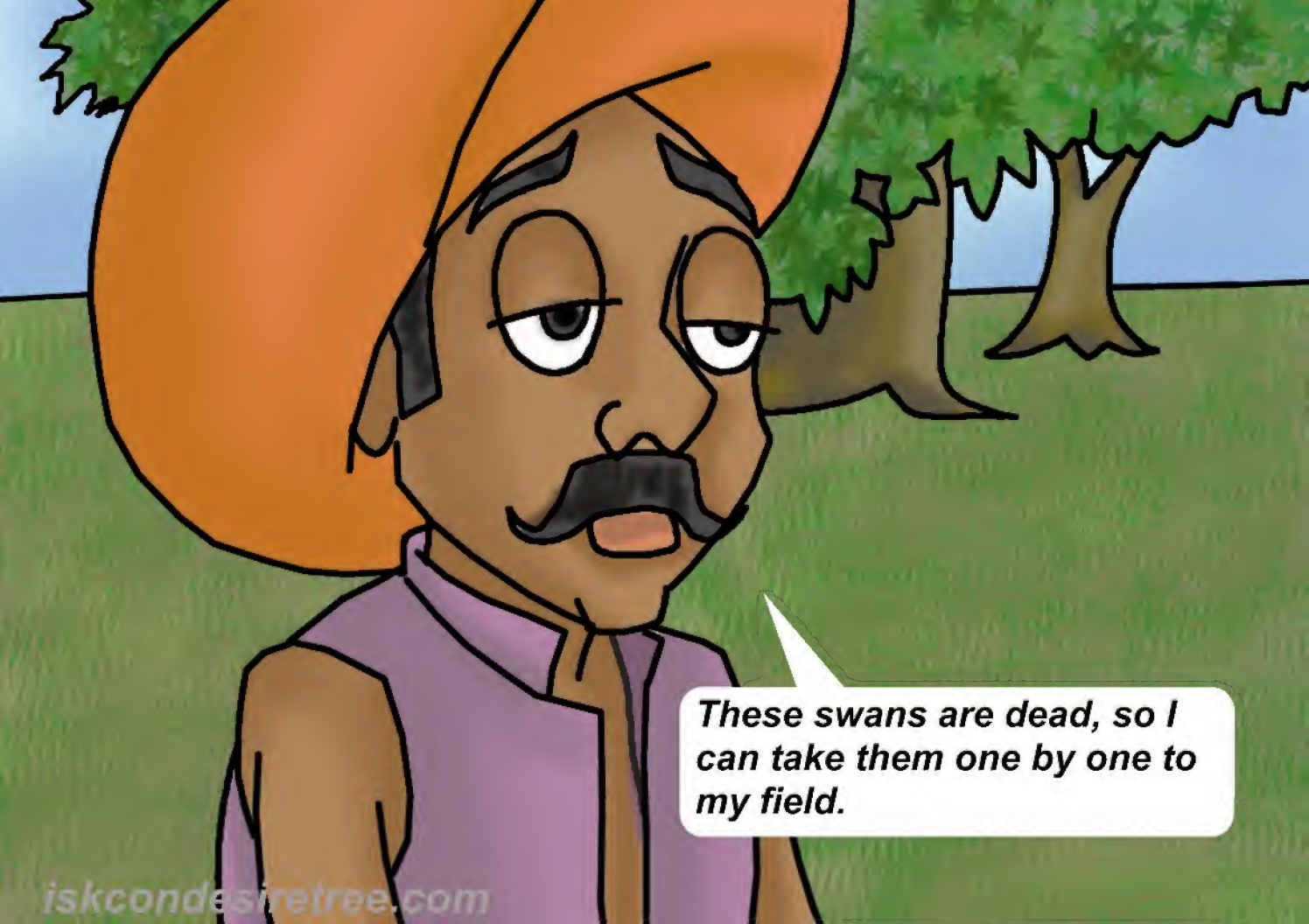
Next morning the hunter  
returns. He saw the swans.



*He took the net down.*

**Oh God !!!  
All the swans  
are dead !!!**





*These swans are dead, so I  
can take them one by one to  
my field.*

When he took the net off  
suddenly all the swans  
flew away together







***What has happened ?  
My swans have escaped.***

**MORAL :**

*In this way by following the old swan's advice, all the swans escaped from the net. From then onwards, all the swans did what the old swan said and they all lived happily.*

*The one who always follows the advice of elders will always be happy.*